

HOUSE No. 1871

By Ms. Balser of Newton, petition of Ruth B. Balser and others relative to mental health parity. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Ruth B. Balser	Peter V. Kocot
Douglas W. Petersen	Denise Provost
David Paul Linsky	Susan C. Fargo
Ellen Story	James E. Timilty
Pamela P. Resor	James B. Eldridge
Edward M. Augustus, Jr.	Alice K. Wolf
Jennifer L. Flanagan	Byron Rushing
Martha M. Walz	Patricia D. Jehlen
Stephen R. Canessa	Cynthia S. Creem
Christine E. Canavan	Brian A. Joyce
Mary E. Grant	Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
William N. Brownsberger	David B. Sullivan
John P. Fresolo	Gloria L. Fox
Susan C. Tucker	Steven A. Tolman
Matthew C. Patrick	William Smitty Pignatelli
Barbara A. L'Italien	Linda Dean Campbell
Kay Khan	Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
Steven J. D'Amico	Louis L. Kafka
John W. Scibak	Elizabeth A. Malia
Cory Atkins	Jennifer M. Callahan

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MENTAL HEALTH PARITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 22 of chapter 32A of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 striking out subsection (a) and inserting in place thereof the
4 following subsection:—
5 (a) The commission shall provide to any active or retired
6 employee of the commonwealth, who is insured under the group
7 insurance commission, coverage on a nondiscriminatory basis for

8 the diagnosis and treatment of any mental disorders, as described
9 in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual
10 of the American Psychiatric Association, referred to in this
11 section as “the DSM” or the most recent edition of the Interna-
12 tional Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems,
13 hereinafter referred to as “the ICD”.

1 SECTION 2. Said section 22 of chapter 32A of the General
2 Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out
3 subsection (c) and inserting in place thereof the following
4 subsection:—

5 (c) In addition to the coverage established pursuant to this
6 section, any such health plan shall also provide coverage on a
7 non-discriminatory basis for children and adolescents up to the
8 age of 21 for the diagnosis and treatment of any mental disorders,
9 as described in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic Classifi-
10 cation of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy
11 and Early Childhood, referred to in this section as “the
12 DC: 0-3R”, Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American
13 Psychiatric Association, referred to in this section as “the DSM”
14 or the most recent edition of the International Classification of
15 Diseases and Related Health Problems, hereinafter referred to as
16 “the ICD”.

1 SECTION 3. Said section 22 of said chapter 32A of the
2 General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
3 striking out subsection (e).

1 SECTION 4. Section 47B of chapter 175 of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 striking out subsection (a) and inserting in place thereof the
4 following subsection:—

5 (a) Any individual policy of accident and sickness insurance
6 issued pursuant to section 108, which provides hospital expense
7 and surgical expense insurance, and any group blanket or general
8 policy of accident and sickness insurance issued pursuant to
9 section 110, which provides hospital expense and surgical expense
10 insurance, which is issued or renewed within or without the
11 commonwealth, shall provide mental health benefits on a nondis-

12 discriminatory basis to residents of the commonwealth and to all
13 policyholders having a principal place of employment in the
14 commonwealth for the diagnosis and treatment of any mental
15 disorders, as described in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic
16 and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association,
17 referred to in this section as “the DSM” or the most recent edition
18 of the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health
19 Problems, hereinafter referred to as “the ICD”.

1 SECTION 5. Said section 47B of said chapter 175 of the
2 General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
3 striking out subsection (c) and inserting in place thereof the
4 following subsection:—

5 (c) In addition to the mental health benefits established
6 pursuant to this section, any such policy shall also provide bene-
7 fits on a non-discriminatory basis for children and adolescents up
8 to the age of 21 for the diagnosis and treatment of any mental
9 disorders, as described in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic
10 Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of
11 Infancy and Early Childhood, referred to in this section as “the
12 DC: 0-3R”, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American
13 Psychiatric Association, referred to in this section as “the DSM”
14 or the most recent edition of the International Classification of
15 Diseases and Related Health Problems, hereinafter referred to as
16 “the ICD”.

1 SECTION 6. Said section 47B of said chapter 175 of the
2 General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
3 striking out subsection (e).

1 SECTION 7. Section 8A of chapter 176A of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 striking out subsection (a) and inserting in place thereof the
4 following subsection:—

5 (a) Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation
6 under an individual or group hospital service plan which is issued
7 or renewed within or without the commonwealth shall provide
8 mental health benefits on a non-discriminatory basis to residents
9 of the Commonwealth and to all individual subscribers and

10 members and group members having a principal place of employ-
11 ment in the commonwealth for the diagnosis and treatment of any
12 mental disorders, as described in the most recent edition of the
13 Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric
14 Association, referred to in this section as “the DSM” or the most
15 recent edition of the International Classification of Diseases and
16 Related Health Problems, hereinafter referred to as “the ICD”.

1 SECTION 8. Said section 8A of said chapter 176A of the
2 General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
3 striking out subsection (c) and inserting in place thereof the
4 following subsection:—

5 (c) In addition to the mental health benefits established
6 pursuant to this section, any such contract shall also provide bene-
7 fits on a non-discriminatory basis for children and adolescents up
8 to the age of 21 for the diagnosis and treatment of any mental
9 disorders, as described in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic
10 Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of
11 Infancy and Early Childhood, referred to in this section as “the
12 DC: 0-3R”, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American
13 Psychiatric Association, referred to in this section as “the DSM”
14 or the most recent edition of the International Classification of
15 Diseases and Related Health Problems, hereinafter referred to as
16 “the ICD”.

1 SECTION 9. Said section 8A of said chapter 176A of the
2 General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
3 striking out subsection (e).